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Docket No.: 43890-552

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Shunji IMAI, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 6015
Application No.: 09/986,975	:	Group Art Unit: 1746
Filed: November 13, 2001	:	Examiner: Joseph L. Perrin
For: WASHING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF WASHING LAUNDRY	:	

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 16, 2006, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 16, 2006, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following amendment and remarks.